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BOROUGH OF PENRYN



REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1965

BOROUGH OF PENRYN

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1965

THE MAYOR OF PENRYN: Alderman E.C. Gwyther, J.P.

CHAIRMAN: Alderman F. Mark Tallack.

ALDERMEN: E.W. Medlin, and J.F.C. Tregenza.

COUNCILLORS: J.A. Barringer, W.G. Boswetherick, A.C. Dunstan,
Mrs. M.A.L. Edwards, W.G.H. Kingdon M.B.E.,
E. Murray, C.H.G. Probert, A.R. Sisson,
D.H.L. Thomas, S. Thomas, E.A.G. Webber,
Mrs. D.W. Williams.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

C.W.J. Hingston, M.R.C.S., (ENG.) L.R.C.P., (LOND.) D.T.M. & H.
(ENG), D.P.H., (LOND.).
Health Area Office, The Leats, TRURO.
Tel: Truro 2202/3.

BOROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

J.W. Armstrong, M.A.P.H.I.,
Municipal Offices, 15, Broad Street, PENRYN.
Tel. Penryn 2289/2203.

CLERK:

Mrs. S.P.A. Northey.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Services for the Borough of Penryn for the year 1965.

May I be permitted to point out that any comments I have to make with regard to the Control and Incidence of Infectious Diseases, Vital Statistics and the provision of Personal services administered through the Area Office at Truro as it effects this district is done in retrospect on figures provided for me for the period when I was not your appointed Medical Officer of Health and am therefore at some disadvantage with regard to lack of personal knowledge of events during the year 1965. However, I should like to thank those officials and members of various Councils who have made my task easier by furnishing me with their background knowledge of events under review. I wish to thank the clerical staff at The Leats, for their help and Miss V. M. Graham, Assistant County Nursing Officer who has provided me with valuable information on the personal services, and all the help I have received from the Health Visitors and Nurses and Midwives in the district. Apart from the expected higher incidence of Measles I am happy to report that the year was a healthy one.

I have the honour to be

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant.

C. W. J. HINGSTON

Medical Officer of Health
Borough of Penryn.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Except where otherwise stated the figures in brackets throughout the report are the comparable figures for 1964.

Area Acres	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	829	
Population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,910	(4,830)
Number of inhabited houses				..	..	..	..	..	1,555	(1,526)
Rateable Value		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£126,604	(£119,513)
Product of penny rate		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£495	(£465.7.4.)
Number of houses built or under construction since 1945									660	(633)
Number of families on waiting list for houses							..	..	140	(159)

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	Males	44	(49)	Females	44	(37)	Total	88	(86)
Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor	..	..		..	..			1.02	(1.02)
Birth Rate, per 1,000 population - Penryn	..	..		..	..			18.2	(18.2)
Birth Rate, per 1,000 population - England and Wales	..	..		..	..			18.1	(18.4)

Illegitimate live Births

[illegible]

Stillbirths

[illegible]

Causes of stillbirth - 1. Obstructed labour due to transvers lie.

2. Prematurity and congenital abnormality

Deaths

Male	35	(25)	Females	26	(18)	Total	61	(43)
Registrar General's Comparability Factor	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.13	(1.14)
Death rate per 1,000 population - Penryn	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.4	(10.1)
Death rate per 1,000 population - England and Wales	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.5	(11.3)

Deaths of Infants under 1 year

[illegible]

Causes of death in Infants under 1 year:-

- 1. Prematurity. Toxaemia of Pregnancy (2 cases)
- 2. Congenital Heart Disease (2 cases)
- 3. Multiple Congenital Defects (1 case)

Deaths in Infants under 1 week of age

Males	1	Females	2	Total	3
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Perinatal Mortality Rate = Number of stillbirths plus deaths in the first week
per 1,000 live and stillbirths - 55.5 - Penryn

Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths - 26.9 - England and Wales.

Because the number of births and deaths are numerically small in such a small population, any slight variability in the numerator will cause large fluctuations in the rates. This is seen in the Infant Mortality Rate, where with the difference of one more in 1964 compared with 1965, the difference in infant mortality rate was 69.8 compared with 56.8. The number of births differed by only 2 between these years i.e. 86+88.

The perinatal mortality rate is a measure representing the combined effect of congenital abnormalities leading to stillbirth, the effects of obstetric skill in preventing injury at birth to the child which may result in death within the 1st week, and the effects of skilled paediatric care in dealing with such cases as prematurity, infection, and congenital abnormality in the 1st week of life. Thus it is a measure of congenital, obstetric and paediatric factors. The age and parity of the mothers; diet during the pregnancy; and the quality of the medical and nursing services all help to determine this rate. Deaths from congenital malformation reflect the genetic and social background of the mother rather than the standard of obstetric care.

Causes of death in the 1st week of life

- 1. Prematurity (2 cases)
- 2. Congenital Heart (1 case)
- Maternal deaths - Nil

STATISTICS SINCE 1950

The figure in brackets in this table are those for the U.K.

	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u>
1950	19.1 (15.8)	11.6 (11.6)	NIL (29.6)
1951	17.5 (15.5)	11.2 (12.5)	41.7 (29.7)
1952	19.5 (15.3)	10.1 (11.3)	24.7 (27.6)
1953	17.0 (15.5)	13.2 (11.4)	27.8 (26.8)
1954	19.9 (15.2)	11.4 (11.3)	56.1 (25.4)
1955	21.4 (15.0)	12.0 (11.7)	40.8 (24.9)
1956	16.9 (15.6)	12.7 (11.7)	25.6 (23.7)
1957	16.9 (16.1)	13.2 (11.5)	26.0 (23.1)
1958	15.8 (16.4)	12.9 (11.7)	41.7 (22.6)
1959	15.1 (16.5)	15.0 (11.6)	NIL (22.2)
1960	14.0 (17.1)	11.5 (11.5)	31.1 (21.7)
1961	14.3 (17.4)	12.9 (12.0)	41.7 (21.4)
1962	19.1 (18.0)	13.2 (11.9)	10.2 (21.4)
1963	17.8 (18.2)	17.2 (12.2)	35.7 (20.9)
1964	18.2 (18.4)	10.1 (11.3)	29.8 (20.0)
1965	18.2	14.4	56.8

VITAL STATISTICS

	MALES			FEMALES		
	Total	Legit.	Illegit.	Total	Legit.	Illegit.
Live Births	44	41	3	44	42	2
Stillbirth	1	1	-	1	1	-
Deaths of Infants						
Under 1 year of age	2	2	-	3	3	-
Under 4 weeks of age	1	1	-	2	2	-
Under 1 week of age	1	1	-	2	2	-

55- 65- 75- & over

Rank	ICD-9 Code	Cause	M	F	Total	Rank	ICD-9 Code	Cause	M	F	Total
1	010	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	1	2	1	010	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	1	2
2	011	Tuberculosis, Other	1	1	2	2	011	Tuberculosis, Other	1	1	2
3	140	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	1	2	3	140	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	1	2
4	141	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	1	1	2	4	141	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	1	1	2
5	142	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	1	1	2	5	142	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	1	1	2
6	143	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	1	1	2	6	143	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	1	1	2
7	144	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	1	1	2	7	144	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	1	1	2
8	250	Diabetes	1	1	2	8	250	Diabetes	1	1	2
9	440	Vascular lesions of Nervous System	1	1	2	9	440	Vascular lesions of Nervous System	1	1	2
10	410	Coronary Disease, Arteriosclerosis	1	1	2	10	410	Coronary Disease, Arteriosclerosis	1	1	2
11	420	Other Heart Disease	1	1	2	11	420	Other Heart Disease	1	1	2
12	430	Other Circulatory Disease	1	1	2	12	430	Other Circulatory Disease	1	1	2
13	440	Pneumonia	1	1	2	13	440	Pneumonia	1	1	2
14	460	Bronchitis	1	1	2	14	460	Bronchitis	1	1	2
15	470	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	1	2	15	470	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	1	2
16	580	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2	16	580	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2
17	740	Congenital Malformations	1	1	2	17	740	Congenital Malformations	1	1	2
18	850	Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	1	1	2	18	850	Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	1	1	2
19	930	All other accidents	1	1	2	19	930	All other accidents	1	1	2
20	950	Suicide	1	1	2	20	950	Suicide	1	1	2
TOTAL ALL CAUSES			35	35	70	TOTAL ALL CAUSES			35	35	70

There are no significant changes in the number of deaths by various causes listed by the Registrar General for Penryn.

Incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases notified per quarters ending:-

	<u>March.</u>	<u>June.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>
Whooping Cough				3
Measles		5	17	
Dysentery		2		
Tuberculosis	1		1	1

There are no significant changes in the frequency of notifiable diseases occurring in the Borough.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. Provision for Mothers and Young Children (sec. 22)

Child Welfare Clinics - Penryn

The total number of attendances in the child welfare clinic was 611, of which 990 were under 1 year of age. There were 51 sessions in the year, thus the average attendance per session was 32, a slight decrease from last year when the average was 35 per session.

Dental

Dental treatment for expectant mothers and pre-school children for the Borough are included in the figures for the Falmouth Borough as all treatment is given at the Falmouth Clinic, the figures are :-

	<u>Expectant Mothers</u>	<u>Pre-School Children</u>	<u>School Children</u>
Inspected	8	56	1998
Offered treatment	8	37	1323
Treated	17	35	626
Attendances	54	53	1962

Ante-Natal Clinics are not held at a specified site, but are undertaken by domiciliary midwives on district duty and by the family doctors in the Borough.

Mothercraft and Relaxation Clinics are held at Penryn and are well attended. 40 such sessions were held during the year. Redecoration and alterations of the Welfare Hall are to be undertaken early next year.

Staff changes affecting the nursing service locally.

The appointment was made of Miss Tremlett, District Nurse/Midwife in July in place of Mrs. Wallis who left the district. Miss Tremlett also undertakes approved teaching duties for Part II Pupil Midwives, until the time when numbers of pupil midwives attending the Bolitho Training School at Penzance increase.

Family Planning Clinics are held at the Falmouth Welfare Clinic at weekly intervals, and are attended by cases from Penryn.

Midwifery Services (Sec. 23)

42 Home deliveries were undertaken by midwives within the Borough for 1965, and although the number of midwifery cases showed a drop from 61 last year the number of visits increased. This was due in part to the increasing number of hospital delivery cases that are discharged home before the 10th day, usually much earlier, as these cases came under the care of the district midwives. Medical aid was called for in 40 of these 42 cases, which is a high percentage.

Although the Infant and Perinatal Mortality Rate are high compared with National average for England and Wales, both show a reduction over last year's figures i.e. 69.8 and 67.4 for 1964 compared with 56.8 and 55.5 for 1965, nevertheless attendance at the family doctor's clinic at an early stage of pregnancy and regular visits thereafter could help reduce the loss of life in the infant especially during the first week of life, as maternal causes such as Toxaemia of Pregnancy can be greatly minimised with adequate early treatment.

Health Visitors (Sec. 24)

The domiciliary visiting by Health Visitors to the elderly have increased considerably in number compared with 1964 i.e. 471 visits compared with 355. Due to the general shortage of long stay beds for the chronic sick and elderly, domiciliary care of the elderly becomes a question of vital importance. Such domiciliary services as Home Helps and Home Aids, Mobile Meals service and Chiropody all help to keep this age group mobile and more able to look after themselves at home.

287 visits to the under 5 years old group and 24 visits to infectious diseases requiring close supervision were made.

As regards work with Tuberculosis which include Falmouth, 769 visits were made to contacts and cases of this disease by the Tuberculosis health visitor for the Falmouth/Penryn area.

Health Education talks and Demonstration were given on 22 occasions by health visitors.

Home Nursing (sec. 25)

General nursing visits amounted to 1627 compared with 1730 last year.

The number of persons involved were 48 general nursing cases, and 31 old persons many of whom required regular injections, apart from normal dressing and nursing care.

Vaccination and Immunisation . (sec. 27)

Number of children given Primary Immunisation with Triple Vaccine

<u>1964</u>	<u>Aged</u>	<u>0-1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>Total</u>
Clinic		12	9	4	-	-	25
G.P.'s		10	40	11	7	4	72
Total		22	49	15	7	4	97

Booster doses

Triple and D/T	5-9 years old	-	63
Clinic	over 9 years old	-	9
G.P.'s	5-9 years old	-	14
	over 9 years old	-	3

<u>1965</u>	<u>Aged</u>	<u>0-1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>Total</u>
Clinic		7	15	3	-	1	26
G.P.'s		2	9	10	3	-	24
		9	24	13	3	1	50

Booster doses

Triple and D/T			
Clinic	5-9 years old	-	11
	over 9 years	-	Nil
G.P.'s	5-9 years old	-	Nil
	over 9 years	-	Nil

Whereas the figure for the clinic cases remain the same for the 2 year period the number given immunisation by the family doctors has increased considerably, and as with other clinics in the health area, more children aged between 12-24 months are obtaining their first immunisation rather than the child under 1 year of age, as in the more common practice elsewhere. A total of 12 children under 15 years of age in Penryn were vaccinated against Smallpox in the year, all were vaccinated by the family doctor. This compared with 68 vaccinated by family doctors in 1964. Considering that the number of live births registered in the Borough has never been less than 64 for any year over the last decade, this figure of 12 represents far too low a figure, and mothers should be encouraged to get their children vaccinated against this disease as early as possible after the child has reached 1 year of age. Recent outbreaks in 1962-3 and this year 1966, should remind the public of the necessity of this simple and necessary precaution. Oral Polio immunisation for the whole health area has resulted in 990 cases completing the course in 1965.

Ambulance Service (sec. 27)

This service is under direct County Control through the Ambulance Headquarters and thus no report on the day to day administration is given.

Prevention - Care and After Care

Tuberculosis

The number of notifications of this disease in Penryn was 3 for the year i.e. 1 male aged between 45 and 64 years and two males over 65 years old. No non-pulmonary cases were notified.

The Mobile X-Ray team visited Health Area No. 3 i.e. Truro City, Truro Rural District and Falmouth and Penryn Boroughs, and undertook 4 special visits to cover personnel at the Dock in Falmouth, and ships crews, a Truro City Survey, and the staff of a Hospital in the area. 2600 persons in all were examined and out of the number, 10 were referred for further investigation. Apart from these special visits, the Mobile X-Ray team visits Falmouth Clinic every two weeks as a matter of routine for referrals from the family doctors and to carry out further investigations on those students and school children found to have a positive reaction to the Heaf skin test.

It is not generally realised by the public that a request for a routine X-Ray check up is possible by use of this Mobile Mass Radiography Service, and is advisable for all adults over 45 years of age at 3 to 4 yearly intervals.

B.C.C. was given to 364 school children found to require protection against Tuberculosis and to 60 contacts of known cases. These figures represent the whole Health Area No. 3 and not just Penryn.

Prevention and After Care as applied to Geriatric cases.

Under the National Assistance Act. 1948 sec. 47, no persons in Penryn were admitted into residential care due to lack of proper attention at home. The services relating to Chiropody and Mobile Meals continue to give support to the elderly in their homes, and are administered through the Old People's Welfare Committees.

Home Help (sec 29)

59 cases in Penryn obtained the use of the Domestic Help Service in the year to their great advantage, and because of the great demand for this service it is hoped that recruitment of Domestic Helps and Home Aids will result in more cases being able to be given adequate care at home.

BOROUGH OF PENRYN

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING

31st DECEMBER, 1965.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I beg to submit my annual report for 1965.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J.W. ARMSTRONG.

Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

There are some 1555 habitable dwellings in the Borough.

During the year work commenced upon 18 dwellings in Permarin Road and 10 flats with Wardens house in St. Thomas Street.

27 houses were completed by private enterprise.

HOUSING ACT 1957 -

One undertaking accepted (section 16) and one closing order made (section 17).

HOUSING ACT 1961 - HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION:

Various improvements have been carried out to the 3 properties in multiple occupation.

HOUSING ACT 1936-57/PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936.

As a result of informal action repairs have been carried out to 11 houses, 1 after formal action.

RECONDITIONING OF HOUSES:

9 properties were improved by 5 standard and 4 discretionary grants, average grant per property £294.

REHOUSING

Our waiting list for house accomodation was slightly lower at the end of the year to 140.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

REFUSE COLLECTION:

The amount of refuse continues to increase and some 1103 loads were deposited at Falmouth Borough's controlled tip at Trescobeas. A weekly collection is made from every dwelling house and trade premises in the Borough.

STREET SCAVENGING:

With three sweepers operating, this service is very satisfactory.

The 12 litter bins in various parts of the town are fairly well used by the public.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES:

There are 4 ladies and gents conveniences cleaned daily.

The erection of the new convenience to serve the centre of the town has commenced.

VERMIN INFESTATION

RODENTS:

There were some 102 complaints for rats and 24 for mice. 134 dead rats and 27 mice were collected which suggested an estimated kill of 320 rats and 50 mice. 5 business premises were treated, also the sewers where slight infestation was again found in St. Thomas Street.

All business premises and farms have been inspected.

The water course required more attention - probably due to the inclement weather.

506 visits of inspection were made to various properties.

The part-time rodent operator carries out all treatment strictly in accordance with the Ministry's recommendations. No charges are made for treatment carried out at dwelling houses.

INSECT PESTS:

4 flea and fly infestations were treated.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

49 inspections of drainage systems were made.

The contractor has commenced laying the sewer in the Packsaddle area.

Flush cisterns were supplied to 6 hand flushed closets.

46 properties have cesspools or septic tanks which are emptied as necessary.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK:

2 premises are registered for the retail sale of milk.

ICE CREAM:

17 premises are registered, 14 samples were forwarded for examination and were satisfactory.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATION 1960

32 premises are registered under this act.

25 premises are attached to living accommodation with domestic washing and cleaning facilities.

The remaining 7 premises have satisfactory washing facilities.

OTHER FOODS:

Certificates were issued for the voluntary surrender of 78lbs. of canned meats and some 5 cwt of tinned foods.

STORAGE PREPARATION & DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD

There are 66 food premises with an ever increasing number of Bed and Breakfast houses. Number and type of food premises as follows:-

Grocers	- 19	School canteens	- 2
Mixed	- 2	Chemists	- 3
Confectioners	- 4	Fruit & Veg Wholesaler	- 1
Sweets	- 8	Fried Fish shops	- 4
Butchers	- 4	Wet Fish shops	- 1
Greengrocers	- 3	Cafes	- 2
		Licensed premises	- 13

WATER SUPPLY

This is supplied by the Falmouth Borough Council and has been adequate during the year.

There are 13 private supplies serving 18 properties otherwise all houses are on the mains.

The proposed development in the Packsaddle area has commenced and the water main to be laid for this area will remove several doubtful supplies.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1957

There are 3 licensed plants in the Borough.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

All premises within the district have registered under the above order which includes 19 offices, 31 retail shops, 6 catering establishments, 1 fuel store depot, 2 wholesale depots, also 22 self employed and 3 clubs. In the 59 premises controlled by the Act there were some 223 people employed.

Inspections have been made and the regulations are generally being complied with.

FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS ACT:

Premises	No.on Register.	No.of Inspect.	Written Notices.	Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Section 1 2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the L.A.	-	-	-	-
2. Factories not included in 2 in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.	35	22	3	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	35	22	3	-

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted
	Found.	Remedied.	to H.M. Referred		
	Inspect.	by H.M.	Inspect.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
Want of cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-workers.	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	3	-	1	-

